HUMB. CCCCLXXXVI.

The SPECTATOR.

Audire eſt operæ pretium procedere recte
Qui mæchis non vultis ----- Hor.

Wedneſday, September 17. 1712.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'THERE are very many of my Acquaintance Followers of *Socrates*, with more particular Regard to that Part of his Philoſophy which we, among our ſelves, call his *Domeſticks*, under which Denomination, or Title, we include all the Conjugal Joys and Sufferings. We have indeed, with very great Pleaſure, obſerved the Honour you do the whole Fraternity of the Hen-peck'd, in placing that illuſtrious Man at our Head; and it does in a very great meaſure baffle the Raillery of pert Rogues, who have no Advantage above us, but in that they are ſingle. But when you look about into the Crowd of Mankind, you will find the Fair Sex reign with greater Tyranny over Lovers than Husbands. You ſhall hardly meet one in a thouſand who is wholly exempt from their Dominion, and thoſe that are ſo are capable of no Taſte of Life, and breathe and walk about the Earth as Inſignificants. But I am going to deſire your further Favour in Behalf of our harmleſs Brotherhood, and hope you will ſhew in a true Light the unmarried Hen-peck'd, as well as you have done Juſtice to us, who ſubmit to the Conduct of our Wives. I am very particularly acquainted with one who is under entire Submiſſion to a kind Girl, as he calls her; and tho' he knows I have been Witneſs both to the ill Uſage he has received from her, and his Inability to reſiſt her Tyranny, he ſtill pretends to make a Jeſt of me for a little more than ordinary Obſequiouſneſs to my Spouſe. No longer than *Tueſday* laſt he took me with him to viſit his Miſtreſs; and he having, it ſeems, been a little in Diſgrace before, thought by bringing me with him ſhe would conſtrain her ſelf, and inſenſibly fall into general Diſcourſe with him; and ſo he might break the Ice, and ſave himſelf all the ordinary Compunctions and Mortifications ſhe uſed to make him ſuffer before ſhe would be reconciled after any Act of Rebellion on his Part. When we came into the Room, we were received with the utmoſt Coldneſs; and when he preſented me as Mr. Such-a-one, his very good Friend, ſhe juſt had Patience to ſuffer my Salutation; but when he himſelf, with a very gay Air, offered to follow me, ſhe gave him a thundering Box on the Ear, called him pitiful poor-ſpirited Wretch, how durſt he ſee her Face? His Wig and Hat fell on different Parts of the Floor. She ſeized the Wig too ſoon for him to recover it, and kicking it down Stairs, threw her ſelf into an oppoſite Room, pulling the Door after her with a Force, that you would have thought the Hinges would have given Way. We went down, you muſt think, with no very good Countenances; and as we ſneaked off, and were driving home together, he confeſſed to me that her Anger was thus highly raiſed, becauſe he did not think fit to fight a Gentleman who had ſaid ſhe was what ſhe was; but, ſays he, a kind Letter or two, or fifty Pieces, will put her in Humour again. I aſked him why he did not part with her; he anſwered, he loved her with all the Tenderneſs imaginable, and ſhe had too many Charms to be abandoned for a little Quickneſs of Spirit. Thus does this illegitimate Hen-peck'd overlook the Huſſy's having no Regard to his very Life and Fame, in putting him upon an infamous Diſpute about her Reputation; yet has he the Confidence to laugh at me, becauſe I obey my poor Dear in keeping out of Harm's Way, and not ſtaying too late from my own Family, to paſs through the Hazards of a Town full of Ranters and Debauchees. You that are a Philoſopher ſhould urge in our Behalf, that when we bear with a froward Woman, our Patience is preſerved, in Conſideration that a Breach with her might

'might be a Dishonour to Children who are descended from us, and whose Concern makes us tolerate a thousand Frailties, for Fear they should redound Dishonour upon the Innocent. This and the like Circumstances, which carry with them the most valuable Regards of humane Life, may be mentioned for our long Suffering; but in the Case of Gallants, they swallow ill Usage from one to whom they have no Obligation, but from a base Passion which it is mean to indulge, and which it would be glorious to overcome.

'These Sort of Fellows are very numerous, and some have been conspicuously such without Shame; nay, they have carried on the Jest in the very Article of Death, and, to the Diminution of the Wealth and Happiness of their Families, in Bar of those honourably near to them, have left immense Wealth to their Paramours. What is this but being a Cully in the Grave? Sure this is being Hen-peck'd with a Vengeance! But without dwelling upon these less frequent Instances of eminent Cullyism, what is there so common as to hear a Fellow curse his Fate that he cannot get rid of a Passion to a Jilt, and quote an Half Line out of a Miscellany Poem to prove his Weakness is natural. If they will go on thus, I have nothing to say to it; but then let them not pretend to be free all this while, and laugh at us poor married Patients.

'I have known one Wench in this Town carry an haughty Dominion over her Lovers so well, that she has at the same time been kept by a Sea-Captain in the *Streights*, a Merchant in the City, a Country Gentleman in *Hampshire*, and had all her Correspondences managed by one she kept for her own Uses. This happy Man (as the Phrase is) used to write very punctually every Post-Letters for the Mistress to transcribe. He would sit in his Night-Gown and Slippers, and be as grave giving an Account, only changing Names, that there was nothing in these idle Reports they had heard of such a Scoundrel as one of the other Lovers was; and how could he think she could condescend so low, after such a fine Gentleman as each of them? For the same Epistle said the same thing to and of every one of them. And so Mr. Secretary and his Lady went to Bed with great Order.

'To be short, Mr. SPECTATOR, we Husbands shall never make the Figure we ought in the Imaginations of young Men growing up in the World, except you can bring it about that a Man of the Town shall be as infamous a Character as a Woman of the Town. But of all that I have met in my Time, commend me to *Betty Duall*: She is the Wife of a Sailor, and the 'kept Mistress of a Man of Quality; she dwells 'with the latter during the Sea-faring of the former. The Husband asks no Questions, sees his 'Apartments furnished with Riches not his, when 'he comes into Port, and the Lover is as joyful 'as a Man arrived at his Haven when the other 'puts to Sea. *Betty* is the most eminently victorious of any of her Sex, and ought to stand recorded the only Woman of the Age in which 'she lives, who has possess'd at the same Time two 'Abused and two Contented-----

ADVERTISEMENTS.

At the old Warehouse, is just now made up a fresh Parcel of Morning-Gowns for Men and Women of Brocades, rich Damasks, Sattens, Callicoes and Stuffs, with very suitable Linings; and will be sold much cheaper than the Shops can afford, tis Goods being bought of People that broke. Several pretend to sell under the same Notion, but the greatest Choice and best Pennyworths is at the golden Sugar-Loaf right against the Horse at Charing-Cross, with the newest sort of Canvis and Quilted Petticoats.

The highest Compounded Spirit of Lavender: The most Glorious (if the Expression may be us'd) Enlivening Scent and Flavour that can possibly be: In Vapours, sick Fits, Faintings, &c. smelt to, or drop upon a bit of Loaf-Sugar, and eaten or dissolv'd in Wine, Coffee, Tea, or what Liquor you please, so charms the Spirits, delights the Gust, and gives such Airs to the Countenance, as are not to be imagin'd but by those that have try'd it. The meanest Sort of the thing is admir'd by most Gentlemen and Ladies, but this far more, as by far it exceeds it, to the gaining among all a more than common Esteem. Is sold only (in neat Flint Bott'es fit for the Pocket) at 3 s. 6 d. each, at the Golden-Key in Warton's-Court, near Holborn-Bars.

Incomparable Perfuming Drops for Handkerchiefs, *and all other Linnen, Cloaths, Gloves, &c. Being the most excellent for that purpose in the Universe; for they Stain nothing that is Perfum'd with 'em, any more than fair Water, but are the most Delectable, Fragrant and Odoriferous Perfume in Nature, good against all Diseases of the Head and Brain: By their delicious Smell, they Comfort, Recreate and Refresh all the Senses, Natural, Vital and Animal, enliven the Spirits, chear the Heart, and drive away Melancholly: They also Perfume Rooms, Beds, Presses, Drawers, Boxes, &c. making them Smell surprizingly Fine and Odoriferous. They Perfume the Hands excellently, are an extraordinary Scent for the Pocket, and in short are so exceeding Pleasant and Delightful, so admirably curious and delicate, and of such general Use, that nothing in the World can compare with 'em. Sold only at Mr. Hoyn's Toyshop at the Angel and Crown in St. Paul's Church-Yard near Cheapside, at 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions*

The Volatile Cleanser and Strengthener of the Reins, an Elixir, which brings away visibly by the Urine all Relicks of Secret Injuries, scowring the Reins of all Foulness, Filth, Slime, or Matter that obstructs the free Passage of the Urine, causes Sharpness of it, or too frequent Occasions to make it; Strangurice, Ulcers, &c. tho' of the longest Date, known by Pains and Weakness of the Back, Threads, Skins, Films or Hairs flying about, or Matter settling at the Bottom of the Urine, its strong Smell, &c. than which nothing is more common after ill Cures It not only cleanses, but also after a peculiar manner most powerfully strengthens the Reins, recovers their lost Tone, and brings all the se Parts and Passages into their right Order in both Sexes. Price half a Guinea a Bottle, with Directions seal'd up, which is generally enough to cure any one Person. To be had at Mr. Lawrence's Toyshop, at the Griffin, the Corner Shop of Bucklersbury in the Poultry.

The Vapours in Women infallibly Cured in an instant, so as never to return again, by an admirable Chymical Secret, a few drops of which takes off a Fit in a Moment, dispels Sadness, clears the Head, takes away all Swimming, Giddiness, Dimness of Sight, Flushings in the Face, &c. to a Miracle, and most certainly prevents the Vapours returning again; for by Rooting out the very Cause it perfectly Cures as Hundreds have experienc'd: It also strengthens the Stomach and Bowels, and causes Liveliness and settled Health. Is sold only at Mrs. Osborn's, Toy-shop, at the Rose and Crown under St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet-street, at 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions. Beware of Counterfeits at other Places.

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